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Signing of two Cassis bills will benefit Michigan students

LANSING – State Sen. Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, was on hand today to see two bills she sponsored to improve Michigan’s educational climate signed into law.

Cassis sponsored Senate Bill 784, part of a package of bills that make hazing a crime, and Senate Bill 307, a bill that promotes parental involvement in Michigan schools. Both bills received strong bipartisan support in the Legislature.

“As a former school psychologist and educator, I know how critical the school years are – and how challenging they can be,” Cassis said. “It is vital that we provide a safe environment for our children. Enacting a hazing law in Michigan is another step to ensure their wellbeing.”

Cassis also praised the signing of her legislation to promote parental involvement in schools.

“Both research and common sense have shown that encouraging parental involvement in their child’s academic life promotes educational success,” Cassis said.

Also attending the bill signing were Garett Drogosch and his family. Drogosch, a Northville middle school student, testified before a Senate panel in March, recounting for the senators how he spent months in a wheelchair following the football team’s traditional ‘Eighth Grade Hit Day.’ The event was not considered a crime because Michigan law did not address hazing at that time.

“Garett showed tremendous courage coming to Lansing to share his story with us,” Cassis said. “I am very proud of this young man, and I am pleased he could be here to see this legislation become law.”

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Editors Note: A downloadable photo of Sen. Cassis at today’s bill signing is available on the Senate Majority Photowire at
<http://www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/photowire/Cassis/Cassis.htm>.